

ABSTRACT

This invention provides for radiopaque rivets to be attached to radially expandable surgical stents. Such rivets are attached at various points of the stent which will allow these points to be readily viewable by a fluoroscope or other imaging device. The rivets are formed of a material having radiopaque characteristics and attached to the stent in a manner that would allow the stent to function normally. Each rivet can be made using a variety of malleable, non-corrosive, and radiopaque metals such as gold, platinum, osmium, palladium, rhenium, tantalum, or tungsten. It is also contemplated that any combination of these radiopaque materials can be used to fabricate the rivet.